

**AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS**

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 2 through 7, 9 through 15, 17, 18, 36, 38, and 39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 8, 16, 19 through 35, and 37 have been amended, claims 40 through 57 have been added.

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:

[[a]] ~~at least one server having a service element~~ for providing [[the]]a service and a ~~data store for~~ storing [[the]] identities of users ~~of the communication system that are~~ registered to the service; and

[[a]] ~~at least one user terminal that is capable of initiating verification of the registration of one or more users of the communication system to the service by transmitting to the server one or more messages indicating the identities of the said one or more users;~~

wherein[[[:]] the user terminal comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code for one or more programs,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to perform at least the following,

generate one or more inquiries about whether one or more users are registered with a service;

receive a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and

selecting one or more of the registered users to receive presence information of the selected one or more users.

~~has a data store arranged for storing a plurality of user identities forming a first set of users,~~

~~and~~

~~the user terminal has a user interface arranged to present to a user of the terminal a single command option in response to selection of which the user terminal automatically transmits to the server one or more messages indicating the user identities of the first set of users for verification of which users of the first set are registered to the service.~~

2. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to ~~any of~~ claim ~~[[5]]~~1, wherein each user terminal is a client terminal and the communication system operates in a client-server mode, and the client terminal is arranged to communicate with the server using at least one of a ~~Client-Server Protocol~~ client-server protocol (CSP) and a ~~Command Line Protocol~~ command line protocol (CLP).

9. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[15]]~~1, wherein the server transmits substantially instant messaging between the at least one user terminal and a second user terminal, both of the user terminals are capable of sending transmit presence data representing the status of ~~their~~ respective users to the server in an asynchronous manner, and the server is arranged to, on receiving that data, store that data, and subsequently, in response to the receiving a request from ~~at least one of the~~ at least one user terminal~~[[s]]~~ for the presence data of the ~~other second~~ user terminal, to transmit the stored presence data of the said ~~other second~~ terminal in a substantially instant manner to ~~the said one of the~~ at least one user terminal~~[[s]]~~.

17. - 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A user terminal capable of operation by a user for registering to a server of~~

~~a communication network, the user terminal~~ An apparatus comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code for one or more programs,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to perform at least the following,

generate one or more inquiries about whether one or more users are registered with a service;

receive a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and

selecting one or more of the registered users to receive presence information of the selected one or more users.

~~a data store for storing a plurality of identities of other users of the network;~~

~~a user interface arranged to present to the user of the user terminal a single command option;~~  
~~and~~

~~a translation element for cooperating with the user interface such that upon selection of the single command by the user, the translation element generates one or more messages which are automatically transmitted from the user terminal to the server for verifying which of the other users are registered to the server.~~

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The user terminal~~ apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:

present at least one command option via a user interface; and

~~in response to selection of the command option, transmit the one or more inquiries to the service further comprising means for receiving from the server a result message indicating the identities of the other users that are also registered to the server.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~user-terminal~~ apparatus of claim ~~[[20]]~~19, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:

select one or more of the registered users to subscribe to presence information of the selected one or more users ~~the user interface is arranged to present a second command option enabling the user to mark one or more of the user identities received in the result message and a third command option for automatically subscribing to said marked users.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~user-terminal~~ apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:

store a plurality of identities of other users of a network ~~the network is capable of supporting that supports~~ substantially real-time communications between the ~~subscribed~~ selected users.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~user-terminal~~ apparatus according to claim ~~[[21]]~~19, wherein the ~~server is~~ service comprises an instant messaging and presence service (IMPS) server which supports ~~at least one of~~ one or more wireless instant messaging services, ~~[[and]]~~ presence ~~[[data]]~~ services, or a combination thereof between the ~~subscribed~~ selected users.

24. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for checking registration status of users, the method~~ comprising:

~~storing a plurality of user identities in a user terminal as a first set of users;~~  
~~presenting a single command option via a user interface to a user of the user terminal;~~  
~~in response to selection of the command option, determining to generate, at a user terminal,~~  
~~automatically transmitting one or more messages indicating inquiries about whether one~~  
~~or more the users' identities of the first set of users to a server where identities of users~~  
~~that are registered to the with a service are stored for verification of the registration status~~  
~~of the users;~~  
~~determining to receive a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and~~  
~~selecting one or more of the registered users to receive presence information of the selected~~  
~~one or more users.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

determining to present at least one command option via a user interface at the user terminal;  
and  
in response to selection of the command option, determining to transmit the one or more  
inquiries to the service receiving a result message indicating the identities of other users  
that are registered to the server.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[25]]~~24, further comprising selecting one  
or more of the registered users to subscribe to presence information of the selected one or more  
users ~~presenting to the user a second command option enabling the user to mark one or more of~~  
~~the user identities received in the result message; and presenting a third command option for~~  
~~automatically subscribing to said marked users.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]]24, further comprising sending at least one of determining to transmit one or more wireless instant messaging messages, one or more [[and]] presence data between the ~~subscribed~~ selected users.

28. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for providing users with information of service registration status of other users of a communications network, the method comprising~~ facilitating access to at least one interface to allow access to at least one service, the service configured to at least perform the following:

~~storing identities of users of the communication network that are registered to a service in a server;~~

~~receiving~~ determining to receive from a user terminal one or more ~~messages indicating~~ inquiries about whether one or more users ~~are registered with a service~~ identities of a first set of users, wherein the one or more messages are generated based on user identities of the first set of users as stored in the user terminal and automatically sent in response to selection of a single command option; [[and]]

~~verifying which users of the first set are registered to the service.~~

determining to transmit to the user terminal a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and

determining to receive a request from the user terminal to receive presence information of one or more of the registered users.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising:  
determining to store identities of users registered to the service; and

~~verifying which of the one or more users is registered to the service base at least in part on the stored identities determining which users in the first set are also in a second set, the second set comprising users that are registered to the service.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, ~~comprising sending a result message to the user terminal, wherein the result message reply comprises~~ comprising the identities of the one or more of the registered users each indicated by a wireless village identifier, name, telephone number, IP address, email address, or a combination thereof of the first set that are registered to the service.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, comprising:

~~generating a third set of users of the communications network which are the users of the first set that are registered to the service;~~  
~~sending said third set of users to the user terminal for allowing the user of the user terminal to select from said third set which of the registered users to subscribe to;~~  
~~receiving~~ determining to receive a request from the user terminal to subscribe to presence information of one or more of the registered users a subscription from the user terminal;  
and  
~~sending~~ determining to transmit to the user terminal the subscribed presence information based on the subscription.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 28, ~~comprising providing wherein the presence information indicative of at least one of~~ includes at least one terminal

availability, user status, user location, user device capability, user mood[[s]], [[and]] user interest[[s]], or a combination thereof.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising transferring ~~substantially instant messaging messages~~ between at least two of the registered users ~~user terminals~~.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A server for providing users with a service via a communications network;~~ An apparatus comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code for one or more programs,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to perform at least the following,

receive from a user terminal one or more inquiries about whether one or more users are registered with a service;

transmit to the user terminal a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered;

and

receive a request from the user terminal to receive presence information of one or more of the registered users.

a service element for providing the service;

a data store for storing identities of users of the communication system that are registered to the service; and

a controller configured to process one or more messages received from a user terminal and indicative of user identities of a first set of users, wherein the one or more messages are



~~generated based on user identities of the first set of users as stored in the user terminal and automatically sent in response to selection of a single command option, and to verify which users of the first set are registered to the service.~~

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause an apparatus to at least perform the following steps:

generating one or more inquiries about whether one or more users are registered with a service;

receiving a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and

selecting one or more of the registered users to receive presence information of the selected one or more users.

~~program product, comprising machine-readable program code for causing performing of the following steps:~~

~~storing a plurality of user identities in a user terminal as a first set of users; presenting a single command option via a user interface to a user of the user terminal; and~~

~~in response to selection of the command option, automatically transmitting one or more messages indicating the user identities of the first set of users to a server where identities of users that are registered to the service are stored for verification of the registration status of the users.~~

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause an apparatus to at least perform ~~program product, comprising machine-readable program code for~~ causing performing of the following steps:

~~storing identities of users of the communication network that are registered to a service in a server;~~

receiving from a user terminal one or more ~~messages indicating~~ inquiries about whether one or more users are registered with a service ~~identities of a first set of users, wherein the one or more messages are generated based on user identities of the first set of users as stored in the user terminal and automatically sent in response to selection of a single command option; [[and]]~~

~~verifying which users of the first set are registered to the service.~~

transmitting to the user terminal a reply indicating which of the one or more users is registered; and

receiving a request from the user terminal to receive presence information of one or more of the registered users.

38. - 39. (Canceled)

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:

store one or more identities corresponding to the one or more users;

receive the presence information; and

present at the apparatus the presence information with user identities of the selected one or more users.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:  
present at least one command option via a user interface thereof; and  
in response to selection of the command option, mark one or more of the registered users to  
receive the presence information thereof.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:  
present at least one command option via a user interface thereof; and  
in response to selection of the command option, mark one or more of the registered users to  
subscribe to the presence information thereof.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the presence information includes at least  
one terminal availability, user status, user location, user device capability, user moods, user  
interest, or a combination thereof.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the user terminal communicates with the  
service using at least one of a client-server protocol (CSP) and a command line protocol (CLP).

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the service is an instant messaging and  
presence service (IMPS).

46. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
determining to store one or more identities corresponding to the one or more users;  
determining to receive the presence information; and

determining to present at the user terminal the presence information with one or more user identities of the selected one or more users.

47. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the presence information includes at least one terminal availability, user status, user location, user device capability, user moods, user interest, or a combination thereof.

48. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the user terminal communicates with the service using at least one of a client-server protocol (CSP) and a command line protocol (CLP).

49. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the service is an instant messaging and presence service (IMPS).

50. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the service is interoperable with one or more instant messaging services, one or more presence services, or a combination thereof.

51. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the service is an instant messaging and presence service (IMPS).

52. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein the service operates under an IMPS protocol suite at an application level.

53. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the apparatus is a wireless village server, and the service includes one or more instant messaging services, one or more presence services, or a combination thereof.

54. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the one or more users are registered with a service with one or more user identities each indicated by a wireless village identifier, name, telephone number, IP address, email address, or a combination thereof.

55. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:  
store identities of users registered to the service; and  
verify which of the one or more users is registered to the service base at least in part on the stored user identities.

56. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the apparatus is further caused to:  
receive a request from the user terminal to subscribe to presence information of one or more  
of the registered users; and  
transmit to the user terminal the subscribed presence information.

57. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the service is interoperable with one or more instant messaging services, one or more presence services, or a combination thereof.